



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of

Sunao KAWAI

Application No.: 10/720,375

Filed: November 25, 2003

Docket No.: 116533

For: NETWORK SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. (Ref. 5)
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto. (Refs. 2-5)
- ☒ 4. Computer-generated English translations of the following Japanese Patent Publications have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 2-5.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

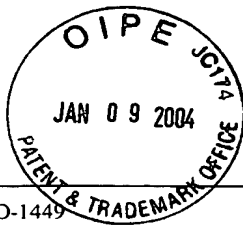
Thomas J. Pardini  
Registration No. 30,411

JAO:TJP/amo

Date: January 9, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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|---|---|---|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 8-83)  |   | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE |            | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>116533        |                 | APPLICATION NO.<br>10/720,375 |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |   |   |            | APPLICANT<br>Sunao KAWAI         |                 |                               |  |
|   |   |   |            | FILING DATE<br>November 25, 2003 |                 |                               |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |   |   |            |                                  |                 |                               |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE       | NAME                             | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                  |  |
|   |   |   |            |                                  |                 |                               |  |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |   |   |            |                                  |                 |                               |  |
|   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE       | COUNTRY                          | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                  |  |
|   | 1 | EP 0 930 748 A2                                   | 07/21/1999 | Europe                           |                 |                               |  |
|   | 2 | JP A 2002-95033 w/ abst & trans                   | 03/29/2002 | Japan                            |                 |                               |  |
|   | 3 | JP A 2001-34434 w/ abst & trans                   | 02/09/2001 | Japan                            |                 |                               |  |
|   | 4 | JP A 2000-20267 w/ abst & trans                   | 01/21/2000 | Japan                            |                 |                               |  |
|   | 5 | JP A 11-203087 w/ abst & trans                    | 07/30/1999 | Japan                            |                 |                               |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)  |   |   |            |                                  |                 |                               |  |
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| EXAMINER  |   |   |            |                                  | DATE CONSIDERED |                               |  |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |   |   |            |                                  |                 |                               |  |

Date: January 9, 2004